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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P26541	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/EP 03/07545	International filing date (day/month/year) 11.07.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 15.07.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC A61J7/04		
Applicant DOLL, Rainer Fritz Robert		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the opinion
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 12.02.2004	Date of completion of this report 13.10.2004
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Godot, T Telephone No. +31 70 340-3319



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP 03/07545

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-9 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-4 received on 07.09.2004 with letter of 07.09.2004

Drawings, Sheets

1/1 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

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5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-4
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-4
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-4
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

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EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US-B-6 198 6951 (POULIN THOMAS RAYMOND ET AL) 6 March 2001
(2001-03-06)
- D2: US-A-5 954 641 (SOHN EVAN ET AL) 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21)
- D3: US-A-4 293 845 (VILLA REAL) 06 October 1981 (1981-10-06)

The document D3 was not cited in the international search report. A copy of the document is appended hereto.

2. The document D3 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and in summary it discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A signalling pocket device comprising a house (see fig. 1 or 3), a data input unit (8), a multi-line display unit (7), a memory unit (29,30), an alarm part-unit (28, 35-38) and a control unit (28) wherein the alarm part-unit (28, 35-38) and the display unit (7) are controlled by the control unit (28), when a set administering time point of medicine is reached, to give alarm for a predetermined period and to display a previously programmed record about the medicines to be taken.

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known signalling pocket device in that the alarm part-unit comprises a sound signalling component, a warning light signalling component and a vibrational signalling component which are settable independently of each other or at the same time and wherein the alarm part-unit and the display unit are controlled by the control unit if the set administering time point of medicines for the user is not acknowledged via an acknowledgement component and when a predetermined number of repetitions of warning signals appeared, to operate the sound signalling component at its highest volume and the warning light signalling component simultaneously as a general alarm, and to display the personal data of the user stored in the personal data storage register, respectively.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as to increase the safety of the signalling pocket device.

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The claimed signalling pocket device solves the problem by providing, after a first predetermined number of repetition of warning signal, a general alarm which operates the sound signalling component at its highest level and the warning light signalling component simultaneously and together displays the personal data of the user.

Documents D1 and D2 disclose a similar signalling pocket device with sound, light or vibrational alarm and display. It is known from these documents that some of these alarm and display means can be actuated simultaneously. Nevertheless, none of these documents disclose a general alarm system which operates all these alarm means simultaneously and with the sound alarm at its highest volume and in addition displays the personal data of the user.

In the rest of available the prior art, there is neither disclosure of a similar general alarm nor a hint which would render it obvious, therefore, an inventive step has to be acknowledged (Article 33(3) PCT).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is industrially applicable as a signalling pocket device (Article 33(4) PCT).

3. Claims 2-4 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of Article 33(2), (3) and (4) PCT.

Remarks:

- Independent claim 1 is not in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 6.3(b) PCT, which in the present case would be appropriate, with those features known in combination from the prior art (document D3) being placed in the preamble (Rule 6.3(b)(I) PCT) and with the remaining features being included in the characterising part (Rule 6.3(b)(ii) PCT).

- Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the document D3 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.

Claims

1. A signalling device to make the administering of medical preparations easier, especially to signal the set administering time point of medicines, which contains a house, a data input unit placed in the house, a display unit and memory unit, as well as a control unit in connection with these and a power supply, the memory unit has a basic storage register and a personal data storage register **characterised by** that the memory unit (30) is supplemented with a time data storage register (32), while the control unit (20) is supplemented with a counting part-unit (21) and comparison part-unit (22), furthermore, the control unit (20) is connected to an alarm part-unit (50), the input (22a) of the comparison part-unit (22) is connected to the time data storage register (33) and the counting part-unit (21), and the output (22b) of the comparison part-unit (22) is directly connected to the alarm part-unit (50) or via the control unit (20).

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2. The signalling device according to claim 1 **characterised by** that the house (10) is fitted with a fixing component (80), and the fixing component (80) is connected to the alarm part-unit (50).

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3. The signalling device according to claim 1 or 2 **characterised by** that the power source (70) is coupled to a supplementary energy store (71).

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4. The signalling device according to any of claims 1-3 **characterised by** that the data input unit (40) has a function select component (41), a scrolling component (42) and acknowledgement component (43), the function select component (41), the scrolling component (42) and the acknowledgement component (43) are push buttons.

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5. The signalling device according to claim 4 **characterised by** that the data input unit (40) has a delete component (44), a data fetching component (45) and a start component (46).

the delete component (44), the data fetching component (45) and the start component (46) are push buttons.

6. The signalling device according to any of claims 1-5
5 characterised by that the alarm part-unit (50) has a sound signalling component (51) and/or light signalling component (52) and/or mechanical signalling component (53).

Abstract

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